

FAITH COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY CALLING FOR UNITY AND PARTNERSHIP TO PREVENT VIOLENCE APRIL 25, 2013

Today faith, security, nonprofit and educational leaders, together with public officials, signed a joint statement calling for unity of all faiths and partnerships with all people seeking to live together in peace.

History is laced with division and violence that has threatened to tear us apart. Yet at the heart of our faiths is love that can reconcile, heal, renew and unite us. We come together affirming that each of us has the capacity to be an agent of reconciliation and a bridge builder.

We come together in the face of a series of violent acts within our community, country and world. We come together to pray, share our stories, and affirm our resolve to oppose such violence. We understand that we can succeed only by working toward that for which we pray. In this effort we commit ourselves to:

- Creating opportunities for people of different faiths to become better acquainted and able to celebrate our essential unity;
- Forging partnerships with first responders and trained leaders from all faith traditions to serve our fellow residents in crisis situations; and,
- Planning long term intervention techniques designed to prevent violence.

We welcome ideas and partners as we move forward in creating what the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King referred to as *the beloved community*. This is a place where justice and love are united in terms that celebrate diversity, secure basic human needs and protect basic human rights.

Individuals who signed the Solidarity Statement

1. Andrew Stern, Interfaith Mediation Initiative
2. Mumin Barre, Concerned/hopeful citizen/Muslim
3. Mohamed Abdullahi, Muslim Community Center (MCC)
4. Randy Lord-Wilkinson, Gaithersburg Interfaith Alliance
5. Tufail Ahmed, Montgomery County Muslim Foundation (MCMF) & Montgomery County Muslim Council (MCMC)
6. Sajida Ahmad, Montgomery County Muslim Foundation (MCMF)
7. Zeenut Ziad, International Cultural Center
8. Sedigheh (Sophie) Atarodian, Shaduli Sufi Community
9. Javier Gomez, Centro Cristiano Internacional (CCI)
10. Mimi Hassanein, Islamic Society of Germantown (ISG)
11. Zarif Ahmad, Muslim Jama'at
12. Sharon Murphy, Church of the Ascension Silver Spring
13. Mansoor Khan, International Cultural Center
14. Gonpo Yeshe (David) Williams, Kunzang Palyul Choling
15. Ammar Najar, Islamic Society of Germantown (ISG)
16. Jamil Dasti, Islamic Center of Maryland (ICM)
17. Tim Simpson, Greenridge Baptist Church

18. Marilyn (Mandara) Wood, International Cultural Center
19. Claire Waggoner, Kunzang Palyul Choling
20. Ken Howard, St. Nicholas Episcopal Church
21. Magdi Hassanein, Islamic Society of Germantown (ISG)
22. Faizul Khan, Islamic Society of the Washington Area (ISWA)
23. Charles Arian, Kehilat Shalom
24. Daniel Spiro, Jewish-Islamic Dialogue Society (JIDS)
25. M. Ziad Alahdad, World Organization for Resource Development and Education (WORDE)
26. Marilyn Allen, Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church
27. Haytham Younis, Islamic Center of Maryland (ICM)
28. Mohammad Khalid, Muslim Community Center (MCC)
29. Janet Craswell, Salem United Methodist Church (Brookeville)
30. Carol Cole Flanagan, St. John's Episcopal Church (Olney)
31. Jacob Blumenthal, Shaare Torah
32. Lida Verner, Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church
33. Afgen Sheikh, Council for the Advancement of Muslim Professionals (CAMP)
34. Terri Murphy, Episcopal Diocese of Washington
35. Andra Baylus, Baba Spiritual Community & JIDS
36. Susan Browning, Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rockville
37. Linda Hanson, First Church of Christ, Scientist (Gaithersburg)
38. Fred Evans, Educator and Concerned Citizen
39. Joel Aronson, Bethesda Jewish Congregation (BJC)
40. Dee Aronson, Bethesda Jewish Congregation (BJC)
41. Sarah Withers Lewis, St. Luke's Lutheran Church (Derwood), ELCA
42. Hena Khan, Institute for Social Policy and Understanding (ISPM)
43. Amjad Chaudhry, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community
44. Saquiba Ahmed, Concerned Citizen
45. Shahnaz Baten, Community Social Worker
46. Nelofar Anwar, Internal Medicine Doctor, Concerned Citizen
47. Fatima Durrani, World Organization for Resource Development and Education (WORDE)
48. Bruce Adams, Montgomery County Office of Community Partnerships
49. Sabir Rahman, Muslim Community Center (MCC), Jewish-Islamic Dialogue Society (JIDS), & Greater Olney Interfaith Ministerium (GOIM)
50. Seamus Hughes, National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC)
51. Chuck Lee, Concerned Citizen
52. Qamar-ul Huda, United States Institute of Peace (USIP)
53. Daryl McSwain, St. John's (Olney)
54. Irfan Saeed, Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
55. Ronnie Haber, Bethesda Jewish Congregation (BJC)
56. Angel Veintidos, Health and Human Services-Street Outreach Network
57. Lynn Strauss, Unitarian Church (Rockville)
58. Aia Sufi, Muslim Community Center (MCC)
59. Tori Cross, Health and Human Services-Street Outreach Network
60. Rasha Price, Concerned Citizen
61. Tina Patterson, Human Rights Commission
62. Shelvan Arunan, Shady Grove Hospital

63. Luther Reynolds, Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD)
64. Thomas Nephew, Montgomery County Committee on Hate/Violence